

Message Text

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23

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 EB-07 /035 W

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P 191537Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1224

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DEPT PASS TREASURY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM B.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S SIMON'S VISIT: POSSIBLY TUESDAY LUNCHEON

REF: A) HULINGS-DAVIS TELECON NOV 17. B) MOSCOW 17822,

C) STATE 283817

1. EMBASSY'S CURRENT BEST ESTIMATES REGARDING LUNCHEON COSTS WERE PASSED IN REF A; THESE WERE: LUNCHEON COULD BE SET UP AT PRICES \$13-20 PER PERSON. FOR \$16 GOOD SPREAD WITH TWO WINES AVAILABLE AND IS RECOMMENDED AS SUITABLE FOR PARTY OF THIS SORT. MORE EXPENSIVE LUNCH WOULD NOT MATERIALLY AUGMENT REPAST BUT SIMPLY CHANGE BRANDS PROVIDED. DUE TIME CONSIDERATIONS SUGGEST LESS FORMAL MENU AT \$16 PER PERSON, IN PART BECAUSE IT IS LESS TIME-CONSUMING TO PREPARE AND THEREFORE EASIER TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH HOTEL FOR IT.

2. WE NOTE PREFERENCE OF TREASURY (REF C) FOR MORE LIMITED LUNCH, BUT ALSO NOTE THAT NUMBER OF GUESTS INDICATED IN REF A-- ABOUT 23 U.S. COUNCIL DIRECTORS, PLUS COUNCIL EXECUTIVES SCOTT AND O'BRIEN, ELEVEN U.S. OFFICIALS, APPROPRIATE GUESTS FROM EMBASSY (WE ASSUME CHARGE, E/C COUNSELOR AND DIRECTOR OF COMMERCIAL OFFICE WOULD BE INCLUDED) AND SOVIET GUESTS STILL COME TO ABOUT 60 EVEN IF SOVIETS HELD TO ABOUT 20. IF SMALLER GROUP DESIRED, PLEASE ADVISE WHO SHOULD BE ELIMINATED FROM ABOVE GROUP.

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3. WE REALIZE THAT NO DECISIONS CAN YET BE MADE ON FINAL

SIZE AND MODALITIES OF TUESDAY LUNCHEON BUT BELIEVE IT WOULD
BE PRUDENT TO SEND SEVENTY-FIVE OF SECRETARY'S INVITATIONS -
ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS - WITH THE PARTY'S ADVANCE MAN IF ONE
COMES AS RECOMMENDED IN REF B PARA 11. ALTERNATIVELY, ONE OF
THE SECRET SERVICE ADVANCE TEAM MIGHT BE ASKED TO BRING THEM.
THIS COURSE OF ACTION NECESSITATED BY LEAD TIME NEEDED FOR
PRINTING IN HELSINKI AS WELL AS DELIVERY UNCERTAINTIES.

MATLOCK

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